

次の英文を読んで設問に答えなさい。

Until recently, typical images of the Japanese most prevalent in the West were those of the "economic animal"; uniformed factory workers or blue-suited businessmen who lived in cramped suburban high-rises or company housing, commuted on packed rush-hour trains, and spent long and tedious hours on the job. These were images that (a) accorded with our acknowledgment of Japan's position as a new economic giant; only a tireless and dedicated work force could attain such success in world markets. Moreover, they were images supported by statistical evidence: Japanese work more hours per year (2,044 hours in 1990) than do Americans or British (1,900 hours) or Germans or French (1,600 hours), and take far fewer vacation days.

Today, however, a new portrait of the Japanese is becoming popular, that of world-traveling, free-spending holidaymaker. And the new image has equally impressive statistical support; more than 25,000 Japanese tourists arrive every week in Hawaii, each spending an average of five times as much as their counterparts from the U.S. mainland, totaling an estimated \$825 million annually: These are the Japanese we meet in our own countries, emerging from first-class hotels, strolling through shopping districts, and snapping photos of famous sights. (b) Their preferred leisure pursuits appear similar to ours; shopping and sightseeing, golf, tennis, and skiing.

This short list, however, (1) while valid, (2) does not reveal the diversity of Japanese leisure activities and the intensity with which Japanese pursue them. As in other areas of modern Japanese life, this diversity seems to derive from a traditional and fearless love of variety. The list of leisure and recreational activities in Japan is probably longer than anywhere else in the world, for it is the sum of the new and imported along with the traditional and local.

Of course, it is the enormous wealth created by the Japanese in the postwar period (3) that has allowed them, for the first time, to reveal themselves to the West as lovers of leisure and fun. However, the truth of the matter is not simply (4) that having suddenly become rich, they have suddenly become pleasure seekers; Japanese have always gone about enjoying themselves with surprising intensity.

A clue to the Japanese approach to life is offered in the commonly heard phrase "*Gambatte!*" or "Hang in there!" It indicates an outlook that life is indeed difficult, but manageable through patience and hard work. (5) Every task completed calls for a celebration to mark it. Even ordinary workdays are often

concluded with drinking sessions or some other form of relaxation. The narrow side streets surrounding train station are typically crammed with small businesses offering a wide variety of leisure pursuits -- movie theaters and restaurants of all types, game rooms for mah-jong and *pachinko*, and bars featuring sympathetic hostesses or *karaoke* equipment for sing-alongs.

If this description seems (c)at variance with typical images of “*workaholic” Japanese, perhaps a basic assumption of outside observers is at fault; the Japanese may be applying themselves diligently not only to work, (d)as is supposed, but also to life. Indeed, the Japanese take their fun seriously. One does not just play golf, for example; one reads books on the subject, studies the game in classes, watches tournaments on TV, and practices in the street in front of one’s home.

The first ride on a resort-bound train with Japanese holidaymakers is always a surprise for those who have previously ridden only on commuter lines. Passengers who would normally be quietly reading magazines or listening to English language-study tapes are chatting loudly while chewing on an elaborate spread of snacks, washed down with beer or whiskey and water. This marks the beginning of a Japanese vacation, which will (e)adhere to the rigorous schedule for which group tours are especially notorious. A typical Japanese vacation, especially to foreign destinations, may be relatively short by Western standards, but not a moment will be wasted. Major sights will be taken in and local foods sampled, (6)with time carefully assigned for everything from shopping to group photo sessions. The return flight may arrive just in time for the ex-vacationers to get a few hours of rest before rising for work the following morning, but a good time will have been had by all. These days “*Gambatte!*” is heard on Hawaiian beaches and Hokkaido ski slopes as well as in the office.

[注] *workaholic:働きすぎの;仕事中毒の

A. 下線部(1)と同じ意味で用いられている’while’を含む英文を次のア～エから一つ選び、その記号をマークしなさい。

ア. While I was napping, I had a strange dream.

イ. While he hates English, he makes good marks in it.

ウ. Make hay while the sun shines.

エ. One was singing, while playing the piano; the others were dancing.

B. 下線部(2)の日本語訳として最も適当なものを次のア～エから一つ選び、その

- (c) 'at variance with'
ア. in conflict with
イ. in relation with
ウ. in common with
エ. consistent with
- (d) 'as is supposed'
ア. as we often hear
イ. as one supports
ウ. as we please
エ. as you like it
- (e) 'adhere to the rigorous schedule'
ア. enjoy the full schedule
イ. preserve the accurate schedule
ウ. be loyal to the tight schedule
エ. protect the severe schedule

G. 本文の内容と一致するものをそれぞれア～エから一つずつ選び、その記号をマークしなさい。

- (1) ア. Japanese people are willing to work leisurely during working hours.
イ. Japanese people put up with their long working hours.
ウ. Japanese people hardly spend tedious hours on the job.
エ. Japanese people do not always work patiently during working hours.
- (2) ア. Germans work no more hours per year than French people.
イ. Japanese people work no more hours per year than Germans.
ウ. Americans work fewer hours per year than Germans.
エ. No other people in the world work fewer hours per year than Japanese people.
- (3) ア. Having suddenly become rich, Japanese people have suddenly become pleasure seekers.
イ. Having suddenly become rich, Japanese people have not yet sought after recreations.
ウ. Having suddenly become rich, Japanese people have always been poor and careful about spending money.
エ. Having suddenly become rich, Japanese people have spent much more money in Hawaii than American tourists.
- (4) ア. "Gambatte!" implies that Japanese people have an optimistic outlook on

life, but they are pessimistic by nature.

イ . "Gambatte!" implies that Japanese people believe life is sometimes easy to bear, but sometimes turns out to be difficult.

ウ . "Gambatte!" implies that Japanese people have many troubles in life, but can cope with them through patience and hard work.

エ . "Gambatte!" implies that Japanese people have a pessimistic view of life, but they are optimistic at heart.

(5) ア . "Gambatte!" is heard on Hawaiian beaches and Hokkaido ski slopes because Japanese people are reluctant to pass time.

イ . "Gambatte!" is heard on Hawaiian beaches and Hokkaido ski slopes because Japanese people take their life seriously.

ウ . "Gambatte!" is heard on Hawaiian beaches and Hokkaido ski slopes because a typical Japanese vacation, especial]y to a foreign destination, is relatively short by Western standards.

エ . "Gambatte!" is heard on Hawaiian beaches and Hokkaido ski slopes because Japanese are reluctant to enjoy their short vacation fully.